

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A system for managing a plurality of resources comprising:
a management module in communication with the plurality of resources; the management module capable of receiving a request to access information related to one or more of the plurality of resources; and
in response to the receipt of a request to access information, the management module accesses information from more than one resource,
wherein the plurality of resources comprise one or more resources of differing type.
2. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 wherein the management module comprises a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources and a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources.
3. (Original) A system as defined in claim 2 wherein the configuration manager installs resources such that the management module can modify configuration information for the plurality of resources.
4. (Original) A system as defined in claim 3 wherein each of the plurality of resources provides information to the configuration manager in XML format.
5. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of resources manages one or more objects, each object comprising:
one or more attributes, each attribute having a data field and a value;
one or more associated tasks that may be performed on the object; and wherein the management module accesses attribute and task information from the associated resources in response to a request to access information.

6. (Original) A system as defined in claim 5 wherein the attribute information for an object is provided by more than one resource.

7. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 wherein each object is defined by a property sheet and the attribute information is a property page in the property sheet.

8. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 wherein the task information for an object is provided by more than one resource.

9. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 wherein each object is defined by a property sheet and the task information is in a property page associated with the property sheet.

10. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 further comprising:
a configuration manager for receiving and storing information from a plurality of resources relating to managed objects; and
a property sheet manager for receiving and storing property sheet information related to managed objects.

11. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 further comprising:
a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources, each resource having associated objects;
a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources; and
a search manager adapted to receive predetermined search information from a plurality of resources;
a search data store adapted to store predetermined search information for the various resources; and
wherein the search manager searches the plurality of resources in response to a single search request.

12. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 wherein the management layer further comprises:

a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources, each resource having associated objects;

a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources; and

a task manager, wherein the task manager receives task information from the configuration manager related to tasks that may be completed in managing the plurality of resources.

13. (Original) A method of managing a plurality of resources, each resource having managed objects, wherein each of the objects has associated attribute and task information, the method comprising:

receiving information from a first resource related to attribute information for a first managed object;

receiving information from a second resource related to attribute information for the first managed object,

storing the information received from the second resource with the information received from the first resource in association with the first managed object;

receiving a request to access information related to the first managed object; and

accessing stored information from the first and second resources to access information related to the first managed object.

14. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13 wherein the information received from the first resource comprises a first property page and wherein the information received from the second resource comprises a second property page and wherein the method further comprises:

creating a property sheet for the first managed object;

associating the first property page with the property sheet; and

associating the second property page with the property sheet.

15. (Original) A method as defined in claim 14 further comprising:
receiving a search request from a client computer system; and
searching a plurality of resources in response to the single search request using
information associated with the property sheet.
16. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15 further comprising the act of
sharing search information between resources.
17. (Original) A method as defined in claim 14 further comprising:
receiving a task request from a client computer system; and
in response to the task request, requesting task completion from a plurality of
resources.
18. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 17 wherein the act of
requesting task completion from a plurality of resources comprises:
identifying two or more resources to configure in response to the task request; and
performing the task by accessing the two or more resources identified[[]] to
perform a task from a client's computer system.
19. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13 wherein the act of receiving
information from the first and second resources is performed by a configuration manager and
wherein the method further comprises:
notifying a search manager that search information has been received.
20. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13 wherein the act of receiving
information from the first and second resources is performed by a configuration manager and
wherein the method further comprises:
notifying a task manager that search information has been received.
21. (Original) A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding
instructions for executing the method recited in claim 13.

22. (Original) A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 17.

23. (Original) A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 18.

24. (Currently amended) A computer program product readable by a computer and having stored thereon a data structure comprising information provided by a first resource relating to attribute information for a first managed object and information provided by a second resource relating to attribute information for the first managed object, wherein the attribute information is utilized in response to a request for information about the first managed object.

25. (Currently amended) The computer program product as defined in claim 24 wherein the data structure further comprises task information provided by the first and second resources utilized in response to a request for information about the first managed object.

26. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of resources comprises one of printer, workstation, server, databases, security systems, email account, or user account.